

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Roy A. BLACK *et al.*

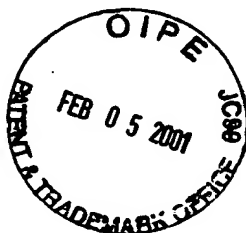
Appl. No.: 09/244,984

Filing Date: February 4, 1999

Examiner: N. Ogihara

Art Unit: 1631

Title: CRYSTALLINE TNF- α -CONVERTING ENZYME AND USES THEREOF



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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
UNDER 37 C.F.R §1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed in the above-captioned case on August 3, 2000.

Petition is hereby made for a three month extension of time up to and including February 3, 2001. A check is attached in full payment of all fees believed to be due in connection with submission of this paper. If the amount is incorrect, however, the Commissioner is authorized to make appropriate charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 19-0741 to provide exact payment.

Applicants request reconsideration and reexamination of their application, in light of the following revisions and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please delete claim 40, without prejudice or disclaimer, and add the following claims:

63. A method of identifying a compound that associates with tumor necrosis factor- α -converting enzyme (TACE), comprising:

(A) using atomic coordinates obtained from crystallographical analysis of a TACE polypeptide to design an associating compound that forms a bond with the catalytic domain of said TACE polypeptide; and

(B) determining whether said compound associates with said TACE polypeptide.

64. A method of identifying a compound that associates with tumor necrosis factor- α -converting enzyme (TACE), comprising:

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